

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (currently amended): A method of ~~data processing on a computer system~~, comprising:

using an electronic application program to compose an electronic version of a document;

~~printing~~ providing the document onto a substrate paper, the printed provided substrate paper being steganographically encoded with plural-bit auxiliary data, the steganographically encoded plural-bit auxiliary data is substantially imperceptible to casual human inspection, but is detectable through visible light imaging of the document and processing of image data thereby produced; and

storing at least some of the plural-bit auxiliary data in association with data identifying a location at which the electronic version of the document is stored.

2. (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~printing~~ providing includes steganographically encoding the printed provided substrate paper with said plural-bit auxiliary data.

3. (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein said storing includes storing in a registry database maintained by an operating system of a said computer system.

4. (original): The method of claim 1 wherein said storing is performed by the application program.

5. (original): The method of claim 1 wherein said storing is performed by a computer system operating system.

6. (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein said storing is performed by a printer driver employed in printing the document onto a substrate paper.

7. (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein the steganographic encoding of the printed paper provided substrate comprises subtle variations in the luminance of the document, which are substantially imperceptible to casual human inspection, but which are detectable through visible light imaging of the document and processing of image data thereby produced.

8. (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the steganographic encoding takes the form of tiny elements of ink or toner distributed in a pattern so light as to be essentially un-noticeable.

9. (new): The method of claim 1 wherein the plural-bit auxiliary data is encoded such that decoding of the encoded plural-bit auxiliary data relies on a Fourier transform that produces data in which scale and rotation can be ignored.

10. (new): The method of claim 9 wherein the Fourier transform comprises a Fourier-Mellin transform.

11. (new): The method of claim 1 wherein the plural-bits of auxiliary data are steganographically encoded with digital watermarking.